Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented)   A method of maintaining state information on a client, the method comprising:

transmitting an unmodifiable cookie which specifies state information from a server to the client;

storing a copy of the unmodifiable cookie on the client in a public cookie file;

storing the unmodifiable cookie in a private cookie file in a location separate from the public cookie file on the client; and,

in response to a request from the client for a document requiring an unmodifiable cookie found in the private cookie file but not in the public cookie file, updating the public cookie file to reflect the unmodifiable cookie found in the private cookie file.

2. (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the unmodifiable cookie is transmitted from the client to the server when the client makes predefined requests to the server and wherein the unmodifiable cookie is transmitted with the file.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1 further comprising in response to a request from the client for a document requiring an umodifiable cookie, checking the public cookie file for a matching unmodifiable cookie.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 4 where no matching unmodifiable cookie is present in the public cookie file, checking the private cookie file for a matching unmodifiable cookie.

6-15. (Canceled)